[0085] Process **1400** is illustrated as starting with display of a user interface at module **1410**. This likely presumes some sort of setup of the user interface based on profiles has already occurred. Next, either at module **1420** or module **1430**, an event triggers a change in the user interface. A user request at module **1420** may relate to looking for information about another user (in order to contact that other user, for example), Similarly, a user request at module **1420** may be a request to initiate communication.

[0086] A schedule change at module **1430** represents a simple schedule change or some other change in status within the system. Thus, an upcoming meeting may trigger module **1430**. Alternately, a user indicating lack of availability (e.g. telling the system to not accept phone calls) may trigger module **1430**.

[0087] At module **1440**, the user interface is updated. This may relate to some form of escalation or de-escalation of part of the system, for example. Alternatively, it may relate to updating a relatively static display with new information. The new information may take the form of updated contact information or may take the form of different permissions from a user for interaction with other users or use of modes of communication.

[0088] At module **1440**, a determination is made as to whether communication is starting. If not, the user interface is displayed in its current form at module **1410**. If so, the communication is handled by the client/system at module **1460**. The communication is eventually terminated by the client/system at module **1470**. Handling the communication may include expanding a window in the user interface for a web-conference or piping telephone audio through a computer's microphone and speakers, for example. Additionally, ending the communication may involve contracting a window in the user interface or otherwise reshaping the user interface.

[0089] One skilled in the art will appreciate that although specific examples and embodiments of the system and methods have been described for purposes of illustration, various modifications can be made without deviating from the spirit and scope of the present invention. Similarly, features and aspects of various embodiments may be integrated into other embodiments, and embodiments illustrated in this document may be implemented without all of the features or aspects illustrated or described. For example, embodiments of the present invention may be applied to many different types of databases, systems and application programs. Moreover, features of one embodiment may be incorporated into other embodiments, even where those features are not described together in a single embodiment within the present document. While embodiments described herein are intended to be exemplary, these embodiments provide examples of embodiments of the present invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing a communications user interface using a media player, comprising:

displaying a set of communications interfaces;

receiving data related to a schedule of communications;

predicting upcoming communications sessions responsive to data related to a schedule of communications;

modifying the set of communications interfaces responsive to the predicting;

receiving user requests;

and

operating the set of communications interfaces responsive to the user requests.

2. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

receiving data related to contact persons for the schedule of communications;

and

modifying the set of communications interfaces responsive to the data related to the contact persons.

3. The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

determining available communications modes;

and

setting the set of communications interfaces responsive to the available communications modes.

4. The method of claim **1**, wherein:

data related to the schedule of communications includes time of communication and mode of communication.

5. The method of claim **4**, wherein:

data related to the schedule of communications further includes contact information.

6. The method of claim **2**, wherein:

data related to the schedule of communications includes time of communication and mode of communication;

and

data related to contact persons includes identifying information and contact information.

7. The method of claim **2**, wherein:

the set of communications interfaces includes an email interface.

8. The method of claim **2**, wherein:

the set of communications interfaces includes a peer-to-peer communications interface.

9. The method of claim **2**, wherein:

the set of communications interfaces includes a chat interface.

10. The method of claim **2**, wherein:

the set of communications interfaces includes a voice-over-IP communications interface.

11. The method of claim **2**, wherein:

the set of communications interfaces includes a video-conference communications interface.

12. The method of claim **1**, wherein:

the method is performed by a processor executing instructions, the instructions embodied in a medium, the instructions causing the processor to perform the method through execution of a media player responsive to a content file.

13. An apparatus, comprising:

a server interface;

a user interface, the user interface including a set of communications interfaces, the communications interfaces modifiable responsive to communications scheduling information and user requests;

a content file including instructions for a media player to execute, a media player implementing the user interface and the server interface responsive to the instructions of the content file, the media player predicting upcoming comunications sessions responsive to communications scheduling information, the media player modifying the user interface responsive to predicting upcoming communications sessions;

and

a media player to access the content file.